



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

13 OCTOBER 2021

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) San Diego – Police Arrest Three Men, Recover ‘Ghost Guns’ in Ongoing Investigation

(U) Police arrested three men during an operation led by the San Diego Police “ghost gun” team. Last week, the team served search warrants at three homes and one business in a continuing investigation into the manufacturing and selling of illegal firearms and ghost guns in San Diego. Investigators recovered 28 un-serialized firearms: 14 handguns and 14 assault weapons. Investigators also seized an additional 13 handguns, four other assault weapons, body armor, a 3D printer, high capacity and drum-style magazines, hundreds-of-rounds of ammunition, and approximately \$90,000 in cash. Police arrested the suspects for various weapons charges, including unlawfully manufacturing firearms, selling firearms without a license, and violating assault weapons laws.

SOURCE: 12 October 2021, [Times of San Diego](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Mexico – Two Americans Detained at California Border Crossings, Accused of Carrying Guns

(U) Tijuana – Mexican authorities arrested two American citizens after trying to enter Mexico with weapons in their vehicles. Members of the Mexican Army were summoned to the Otay Mesa Port-of-Entry by Mexican Customs Agents, who stopped a man with a gun and a magazine with 10-rounds. Around the same time, other Mexican military personnel were dispatched to a border crossing in Mexicali, Baja California, where they said another US citizen had been stopped while driving into Mexico with a gun and 15-rounds of ammunition. The Americans, whose names have not been released, were both detained and placed into custody.

SOURCE: 12 October 2021, [WJTV](#)

(U) Texas – US Border Patrol Agents Discover Migrants at West Laredo Stash House

(U) Laredo – US Border Patrol agents discovered more than 20 migrants inside a west Laredo home. Laredo North Station agents responded to a report of possible undocumented people hiding behind a church in northeast Laredo. Two vehicles then transported the individuals to a residence in west Laredo. Agents, along with other federal and local counterparts, encountered 25 people when they investigated the area. Immigration inspections revealed they were all in the country illegally.

SOURCE: 12 October 2021, [Laredo Morning Times](#)

(U) Texas – Officers Seize More Than \$16 Million in Methamphetamine at International Bridge

(U) Pharr – US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers assigned to the Pharr International Bridge cargo facility intercepted \$16,512,400 in alleged methamphetamine. The officers encountered a commercial tractor-trailer arriving from Mexico and referred the vehicle for further inspection. Using non-intrusive imaging equipment and a canine screening, officers discovered 468 packages of alleged methamphetamine weighing 535kg concealed within the trailer. After CBP seized the narcotics and vehicle, US Immigration and Customs Enforcement-Homeland Security Investigations agents opened a case to investigate the incident further.

SOURCE: 12 October 2021, [US CBP](#)

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(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – Man Arrested for Impersonating a Police Officer

(U) Washington DC – The Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) arrested Barry Newman, 58, for impersonating police and possessing a prohibited weapon. An MPD officer pulled Newman over after observing him use red and blue flashing lights to pass vehicles. As Newman pulled off for the traffic stop, he turned off his lights. The MPD officer noticed Newman wearing a police duty belt, a 2001 MPD Inauguration badge, along with an empty gun holster, OC chemical spray, handcuffs, and an expandable baton. All the items were listed as stolen in a police report. MPD also found a fully-loaded pellet gun in the car's center console. Newman is a licensed Special Police Officer, but MPD stated Newman had no registration information available to indicate he was armed.

SOURCE: 12 October 2021, [WUSA9](#)

(U) Florida – Woman Hacked Flight System, Cleared Planes with Maintenance Issues to Fly

(U) Tampa – Lauren Lide, 26, is facing a string of charges after she allegedly hacked into the computer system at Melbourne Flight Training (MFT). On 12 January 2020, authorities became suspicious after the MFT CEO logged into the Flight Training computer and noticed problems. The CEO noticed 12 airplanes were missing their make, model, and tail numbers. Additionally, aircraft that had been flagged as having maintenance issues had been “cleared.” The CEO identified two suspects: a man who had been the Director of Maintenance for MFT before being fired in November 2019, and his daughter, Ms. Lide, who resigned from her job as Flight Operations Manager the same day her father was fired. Authorities investigating the situation charged Ms. Lide as she is considered the only person capable of making the changes.

SOURCE: 12 October 2021, [WFLA](#)

(U) New York – Iranian Large-Scale Heroin Traffickers Arrested in Kenya, Extradited to United States

(U) New York City – Malek Mohammad Balouchzehi, 38, a citizen of Iran, was taken into custody by Kenyan authorities and extradited to the United States from Kenya. Authorities charged Balouchzehi with conspiring to import heroin into the US and distributing heroin. In or about September 2019, Balouchzehi and an associate began communicating and meeting with individuals Balouchzehi believed were heroin traffickers. Those individuals were confidential sources working under Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) direction and an undercover DEA agent posing as a New York-based heroin distributor. Following a sample shipment through Mozambique, Balouchzehi planned to supply larger quantities of heroin for importation to and distribution within the US.

SOURCE: 12 October 2021, [Department of Justice](#)

(U) Tennessee – Three Employees, Including Suspect, Dead in Shooting at Postal Facility

(U) Memphis – On Tuesday, a US Postal employee killed two US Postal Service workers and himself at a facility in Memphis. The shooting is the third high-profile shooting in or near that west Tennessee city in weeks. The shooting occurred at the post office branch in the historic Orange Mound neighborhood, southeast of downtown Memphis. No identities or motives were released by authorities at an initial news briefing late Tuesday afternoon.

SOURCE: 12 October 2021, [FOX17](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Turkey – More Than 20 ISIS Terror Suspects Arrested

(U) Ankara – Authorities arrested at least 22 people believed to be linked to the Islamic State of Iraq and

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ash-Sham (ISIS) in Turkey. Police carried out simultaneous operations in nine provinces after prosecutors in the capital Ankara issued warrants for 14 suspects. The suspects were active ISIS members who provided personnel and materials to the terror group. Police seized digital materials, organizational documents, and binoculars during the arrests. The remaining ISIS members were arrested in areas outside Ankara, including Adana and Kayseri provinces.

SOURCE: 12 October 2021, [YeniSafek](#)

(U) Somalia – More Than Six Killed in Two Separate Mogadishu Terror Attacks

(U) Mogadishu – At least three people were killed, and several were wounded Tuesday evening when a suicide bomber blew himself up at a busy restaurant in Somali capital Mogadishu's Yaqshid district. Meanwhile, an intelligence officer and two bodyguards were killed after a landmine explosion targeted his vehicle in the Daynile district in Mogadishu earlier in the day. No group has yet claimed responsibility for the attack, but Somali-based al-Qa'ida affiliated group al-Shabaab has claimed responsibility for recent attacks in the restive horn of African country.

SOURCE: 12 October 2021, [Daily Sabah](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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